

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice, please amend claims 1, 6, 7 and 8, and please add new claim 10 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A device for storing bags, having

a winding-up roller ~~(1)~~,

a drive for the winding-up the roller ~~(1)~~,

a roll ~~(2)~~ which is arranged on the winding-up roller ~~(1)~~ for unwinding in a direction opposite a winding-up direction and which comprises at least one film web and stacks ~~(5)~~ of bags arranged thereon, such that

the ~~openings of the~~ bags having openings that are arranged to face to the front, as the bags are unwound in the unwinding direction, and

wherein the bags each have a front region adjacent their openings for gripping, said front region having a plurality of spaced apart holes for receiving pins of a gripping device.

2. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bags are arranged in an overlapping manner.

3. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the overlapping is formed such that the leading edge of each bag is located beneath the respectively preceding bag stack in the unwinding direction.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in

claim 1, wherein the unwound film web is guided over a deflecting roller ~~(6)~~.

7. (Currently amended) The device as claimed in claim 5, having a gripping means ~~(7)~~ for gripping the front region of a bag in the ~~strack~~ stack ~~(5)~~ for transfer to a feed means for a packaging machine.

8. (Currently amended) A method for storing bags on a interim basis, wherein the bags, combined to form stacks ~~(5)~~, are wound up with the aid of at least one film ~~(3)~~ such that their open sides are oriented face forwardly, as seen in the unwinding direction.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the bags are wound up with their longitudinal seams running perpendicular to a direction of winding for the bags.

10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the bags each have a front region adjacent their open side for gripping, said front region having a plurality of spaced apart holes for receiving pins of a gripping device; and wherein the gripping device has pins for engaging the bags through the holes for further movement of the bags.